Statement

Procurement/Minimum Support Prices

(According to Crop Year)

(Rs. per quintal)

Sl.	Commodity	Variety	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Paddy	Common	230	270	310	340	360
		Fine	240	280	330	360	375
		Super Fine	250	290	350	350	395
2.	Coarse Cereals (Jowar Bajra & Ragi)		205	240	260	280	300
3.	Maize		210	245	265	290	310
4.	Wheat		275@	330	350	360	380
5.	Barley		210	260	275	285	295
6.	Gram		500	600	640	670	700
7.	Arhar		545	640	700	760	800
8.	Moong		545	640	700	760	800
9.	Urad		545	640	700	760	800
10.	Sugarcane $		26.00	31.00	34.50	39.10	42.50
11.	Cotton	F-414/H-777	695	800	900	1000	1150
		H-4	840	950	1050	1200	1350
12.	Groundnut-in-shell		645	750	800	860	900
13.	Jute	TD-5 Grade	375	400	450	470	490
14.	Rapeseed/Mustard		670	760	810	830	860
15.	Sunflower Seed		670	800	850	900	950
16.	Soyabean	Black	395	475	525	570	600
		Yellow	445	525	580	650	680
17.	Safflower		640	720	760	780	800
18.	Torla		645	725	780	800	825
19.	Tobacco(VFC) (Rs. per kg.)	Black soil (F2 Grade)	14.75	16.00	18.00	18.50	19.00
		Light Soil (L2 Grade)	16.00	17.50	20.00	21.00	21.50
20.	Copra	Milling	1700	Not Announced	2150	2350	2500
	(Calendar Year)	Ball	1840	Not Announced	2350	2575	2775
21.	Sesamum		—	—	—	—	850.00
22.	Nigerseed		—	—	—	—	700.00

$-Statutory Minimum Price for a basic recovery of 8.5 percent

@-Including a Central Bonus of Rs. 25.00 lper quintal.

"Destruction of Cultivable Land in Tamil Nadu"

3303. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the number of acres of cultivable land destroyed by tanners effluents in Tamil Nadu, particularly in North Acrot Ambedkar District?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OR THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): No conclusive scientific estimates have been

made on the extent of damage caused to cultivable lands due to discharge of tannery effluents on land in Tamil Nadu, particularly in North Arcot Ambedkar district. However, some estimates made in 1982 indicated significant pollution on an area of about 3100 hectares and relatively low pollution in area of about 11,000 hectares. The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University is currently studying the impact of tannery wastes on cultivable lands in the State.

रेलवे में आर्थिक संकट

3304. **श्री दिलिप सिंह भूरिया:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या भारतीय रेल, बजट में कटौती और बाजार से ऋण और अन्य संसाधन नहीं जुटाये जाने के कारण से, गंभीर आर्थिक संकट में है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संकट से उबरने के लिये रेलवे द्वारा सरकार से कितनी धनराशि की मांग की गई है;

(ग) वर्ष 1993-94 और 1994-95 के दौरान उनके मंत्रालय द्वारा बाजार और अन्य साधनों से ऋण और संसाधन जुटाने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(घ) इस संबंध में उपलब्धियों और असफलताओं का ब्यौरा क्या है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) संसाधन जुटाने के लिए निम्नलिखित कार्रवाई की गई थी:—

1. बजटीय सहायता में वृद्धि।

2. प्रणाली की सर्वोत्तम क्षमता के अनुरूप आंतरिक संसाधनों का जुटाना; और

3. भार० रे० वि० नि० द्वारा जारी बंध पत्रों के माध्यम से बाजार से संसाधन जुटाना।

(घ) यद्यपि प्रत्याक्षा के अनुरूप बजटीय सहायता प्राप्त नहीं हुई थी फिर भी जुटाए गह कुल संसाधन रेलों की वित्तीय अर्थक्षमता बनाए रखने के लिए संतोषजनक थे।

"Cultivation of Prawns"

3305. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cultivation of prawns is causing environmenatal damage, loss of farmland and unemployment in developing countries including India as reported in the Economic Times dated the 28th May, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Culture of prawns by adopting sustainable, eco-friendly and socially acceptable methods as per the guidelines issued by the Union Ministry of Agriculture, does not cause environmental damage. Construction of ponds on lands not fit for cultivation alone is permitted for shrimp farming. Conversion of agricultural land for culture of prawns is discouraged and the same is also presently prohibited by the Supreme Court.

In India out of the estimated brackish water area of 12 lakh ha., about 1.44 ha. area presently is reported to be under shrimp farming. Over 75 percent of this area i.e. about 1.08 lakh ha. is under traditional / extensive farming and remaining 36,000 ha. under modified extensive /semi-intensive shrimp farming. It is also estimated that the total annual production of cultured shrimps in India as on 1993-94 was around 84,000 tons. There have been reports of some environmental degradation along Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu coast, in areas where there is a high concentration of shrimp farms.

(c) Government is encouraging prawn / shrimp culture activites under scientific